

The Washington Times

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MONDAY, APRIL 23, 1917.

The Human Side of Balfour

It was characteristically English for Mr. Balfour to slip away from his residence yesterday afternoon, start on an automobile ride through Rock Creek Park, and then to desert the automobile and take a long walk through its winding paths studying the trees and the flowers and the birds. He is a many-sided man, and his position in the world of statesmanship and the importance of his mission to America do not prevent his enjoyment of the simple things of life. His fame as an author is as great as his distinction as a diplomat; and in his hours of ease, when the war is over, his facile pen may compose some such study of the natural beauty of the environs of Washington as our own John Burroughs wrote concerning the birds of Rock Creek Park.

The Welcome to the British Mission
The best thing about the ovation given Mr. Balfour and his distinguished party by the citizens of Washington was its complete spontaneity. So far from encouraging the demonstration in which a hundred thousand people had a share, the newspapers and the Government strove to minimize it. But the mere publication of the fact that these guests of the nation would arrive at a certain hour was enough to bring forth an unexampled outburst of enthusiastic greeting.

We have no doubt at all that Mr. Balfour was "greatly moved." It was far more than a personal tribute. It was a recognition of the part that one of our allies has played in the war for humanity and democracy and civilization. It was a glorification of the fact that Great Britain and America are allies in such a war.

It should serve as a notice to Congress that delay in preparing the plans for an army that shall give the coup de grace to the German Kaiser and all that he represents in peace and war is henceforth intolerable.

Ambassador Elkus Stricken
Word of the illness of Mr. Elkus, the Ambassador to Turkey, who is suffering an attack of typhus, recalls the fact that the American Embassy at Constantinople has for months past devoted itself at much hardship and no little risk of health to humane care for the Christians, the war captives, and others under the Sultan's rule. Typhus has been prevalent in and about Constantinople itself for most of that time.

The risk of infection was one of the dangers of the trade of ministering to thousands of the afflicted.

Although it is not generally known, owing to the lack of news from that quarter, the American Embassy at Constantinople, which was lately reported, was in touch with some 40,000 persons in need of food, clothing, medical attention, or protection. A great, organized relief work has been carried on, less important than that of Hoover and Brand Whitlock, but carried on under greater drawbacks in many respects.

Mr. Elkus' recovery will be hoped for by Americans everywhere. He has been laid low in a genuine service to humanity, where such service was attended with peril. When we know more of his actions in Turkey we shall better realize what he has done and rank him with those other worthy servants, Herrick, Whitlock, and Gerard.

The Dent Conspiracy

The hands of the army officers responsible for the effectiveness of our military organization have been tied to date by the refusal of Congress to give them the one essential for making an army—men. Should the cowardly and anti-American course recommended by Chairman Dent of the House Committee on Military Affairs and his majority associates in that committee be adopted the hands of the military chiefs of the Government will be lashed fast permanently. For the one purpose of this recommendation is to prevent the securing of men for the United States army.

In the face of the fact that the volunteer system not only failed to furnish the men needed for the recent mobilization on the Mexican border but is also failing to furnish promptly enough the 530,000 men needed for the initial force to be sent overseas, according to the Administration's program, Mr. Dent and his associates would compel the President to adhere to that system indefinitely. He would be authorized to use selective conscription only after getting his first 500,000 volunteers and finding it impossible to get 500,000 more by the same method "in the event it becomes necessary to raise an additional force" of that size.

If this construction of what the Dent committee's recommendations actually say is correct the organization of an American army would be effectively prevented by their adoption. Mr. Dent and his accomplices

have conspired, in other words, to prevent the United States from putting men into the field to avenge the unspeakable wrongs we have suffered at the hands of a truculent aggressor, to vindicate our good name among the nations, and to fight beside the soldiers of our allies to uphold world liberty. There is no other inference to be drawn regarding the intentions of these anti-conscription Congressmen.

For, as we have demonstrated already, at the present rate of enlistments six months will be required at the very least to get the first 530,000 volunteers, without allowing time for training and organization. If the President must wait until he gets his first 500,000 volunteers before calling for the second 500,000 and must then wait indefinitely to see whether he will get the second 500,000 before resorting to selective conscription it is plain that the United States will not be ready to organize a real army before the war has been won by our allies. This, in fact, is the aim of the Dent conspiracy—to let the English and the French and the Russians and the Serbians and the Belgians and the rest of the allies fight our battles for us.

A more cowardly purpose or a purpose more inimical to the welfare of the United States is impossible of conception. We are confident that the overwhelming majority of clear-sighted, patriotic Congressmen will see through this miserable plot of the Dent ring and hearken to the earnest adjuration of President Wilson to defeat it.

Pacifists and Abolitionists
Beginning with a misquotation from the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, with the smug assumption of fellowship in martyrdom between the pacifists and Him, an anonymous writer in the New York Evening Post strives to draw the parallel between the early American abolitionists and the modern pacifists. The article contains a definition of pacifism as the creed "that the injunction, Thou shalt not kill, applies at all times and that there is never a right time when war should be waged." That sufficiently stamps the imperviousness of the pacifist mind to logic, especially the logic of events. The very fact that aggressive war should never be waged is justification for waging a war either of self-defense or in defense of others against aggressive war.

When we come to study the parallel between the pacifists and the abolitionists, we find that it consists in one thing only: that the abolitionists were in the minority at one time and the pacifists are in such a minority now. That at least contradicts the impression the pacifists have striven to make upon Congress, that a majority of the people of the United States are opposed to war with Germany, no matter how outrageous her aggression upon American rights and insults to American honor, and if we could only have had a referendum we should have refused to make a declaration of war under any circumstances.

Another suggestion is that pacifists and abolitionists were martyrs to their convictions. Shades of Garrison and Wendell Phillips, to say nothing of Elijah P. Lovejoy and old John Brown himself. Imagine any of them, accustomed as they were to mobs and brickbats, contributing an anonymous article on pacifism to a newspaper, in this time of free speech, and prating about martyrdom.

The early abolitionists were a militant band from the first. They denounced the Constitution of the United States as a league with death and a covenant with hell. They willed and they did their utmost to bring on the war against the Southern States. They were uncompromising advocates of the continuance of that war until it ended in the abolition of slavery and the full preservation of the Union. They may have been extremists, but they were never pacifists.

If the pacifist editor, Oswald Garrison Villard, who for the sake of the family should drop his middle name, wants to find a parallel that is really deadly, he can make one off between the present pacifists and the Copperheads of the sixties. Both may lay claim to being a minority and a despicable minority at that. Both will doubtless share their due of odium for being cowards and slackers in a time of danger to their country.

A new comet is reported. But nowadays one can't help wondering if it wasn't an aeroplane that swam into the astronomer's ken.

Chile might better join the war party than indulge in her own little private volcano.

It is all very well for a bricklayer to win a Marathon race. But it would help some if now and then one of these Marathoners would stop and lay a few bricks.

That Spaul's Carlist party should be pro-German is easily intelligible, even if the pretender it supports is a prisoner in an Austrian jail.

If German-Americans in case of an attack by Germany on America offer to defend their new home land we can understand and approve. Die Post, of Berlin.

That even this much should be comprehensible in such a quarter is more than we can understand.

Henry tried, Hoke Smith in the Senate, Euripides in the House, and now time flies!

Don Marquis' Column

Preface to the Plays of Euripides.
We approach a preface to the plays of Euripides with more confidence than we could summon to the critical consideration of any other Greek dramatist. We know more about Euripides. We have read more of him. We once read five lines of him in the original Greek. It is true that we did not know what they were about when we read them, and should not know now, but we read them thirty or forty times, and something about the manner in which we read them saved a man's life.

We were fussing around the office of the Atlanta (Ga.) Journal one morning about 3 o'clock, having just finished an editorial which we thought would likely elect Hoke Smith governor if he were able to live up to it, when we ran across a copy of "Iphigenia in Tauris." It was a new edition and some trusting publisher had sent it along in the vain hope that it would be noticed. We happened to know the alphabet and could mispronounce a few words, and we turned over the pages, wishing that we were able to read the thing—it might give us a chance to elevate our mind, which was suffering from the fright which was about to come upon Hoke Smith in such a way that even Hoke would believe himself a statesman. And thinking how great a man Euripides probably was, for all we knew, and how superior to Hoke Smith he must have been in many ways, we got very hungry.

And went across the street to a little basement luncheon kept by a fellow named George Stefanopoulos, who always put so much onion in his Hamburgers that one could not taste the beef. I once poured enough Worcestershire sauce over them so that one could not taste the onions they could be eaten. We carried Euripides with us, and George told us proudly that there was no difference between the Greek Euripides and the English Shakespeare's time and the English of today. Inquiry revealed that George's knowledge of Shakespeare was about as extensive as our knowledge of Euripides, and so we cannot vouch for his statement.

Interrupting our course in Euripides—some one or some thing has been interrupting us all our lives, and we are getting into the classics—came a fellow named Henry.

Henry roamed with us, and roamed with us at that time, and he was a chronic sufferer from false angina pectoris. This is a disease (unknown to Euripides, but Alcibiades undoubtedly developed it) which has all the effects upon patient and observer of real heart disease; no one takes it lightly but the doctors, in Henry's case, were aggravated by a fondness for Georgia corn whiskey and stuff he ate out of tin cans. This diet did things to his stomach; his stomach kicked to his pneumatic nerve, and his pneumatic nerve gripped his heart as with iron claws, quivered it to the size of a peanut, twisted it like a fountain pen that won't unscissor and convinced us that it would never beat again. The main difference between real angina and pseudo angina (as far as we can gather from Euripides) is that while both can kill you, the real sort kills you more quickly and kindly.

Henry pulled a spasm of it while George was telling us about Euripides; writhed about, and fell to the floor semi-conscious.

Heat, applied to the heart, and karychne or aromatic ammonia, if you can get it, are the only remedies (Aesculapius would say) "indicated."

So we sent George's assistant to telephone for a doctor and applied a hot Hamburg steak, just out of George's frying pan, to Henry's bosom.

We had frequently helped Henry die with his heart, but this time we were alarmed.

"George," said we, "throw another Hamburg steak into the skillet at once. His pulse has stopped entirely. And this steak is cooling."

Just then Henry's eyes fluttered, and he started to speak. We bent over the sufferer.

"I'm dying," murmured Henry. "Pray! Pray for me!"

It caught us unaware; we could not remember any other petition. In desperation we took up Euripides, and, as the second Hamburg steak went hot and sizzling and dripping with grease from George's frying-pan to Henry's heart, we began to chant one of the choruses.

There was something about a Basileon in it, whatever a Basileon is.

"Thank you," muttered Henry.

The third steak was getting cool, and still George's assistant did not return with a doctor. Henry's chest was cooling, too. His feet and hands were cold. He had no more pulse than a wooden Indian for one of the "dog" dogs in Hoke Smith's front yard. If we had known a real prayer we would have switched to it from Basileon.

And just as we were putting Basileon over the jump for the eighth time George Stefanopoulos announced:

"Sir, I have no more Hamburg steak to fry!"

"My God!" said we, "Basileon—Basileon—dig up something else—Basileon—Basileon—fry an egg, George—Basileon—Basileon—and be quick about it! Fry two eggs!"

It was at the sixteenth egg that the physician arrived and complimented us on our treatment.

"Heat," he said, "is the great thing in these cases, and it is well to remove all apprehension from the patient's mind if possible." "The prayer," said Henry, who had been hypothesized into something like an appetite for corn whiskey and tin cans again, "the prayer is what saved me!"

LETTERS TO TIMES FROM ITS READERS

Dr. Woodward Replies to Plea for Unlicensed Milk in Washington.

TO TIMES READERS

The Times is receiving great numbers of letters from its readers.

No communication which does not carry the name and address of the contributor will be used, but both will be considered confidential if request is made.

Publication will not be made of letters on untimely subjects or religious questions. It will not publish abusive personal attacks nor criticism which The Times deems unwarranted by the facts as it knows them.

No record is kept of unpublished letters and none will be returned unless postage is inclosed.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

The attorney for certain milk dealers who desire to distribute among their customers milk from unlicensed, uninspected farms, without labeling such milk to show their customers its character, makes the point that in Baltimore, where that practice is tolerated, milk sells for 4 cents a gallon less than it does in Washington. He fails, however, to take into consideration the quality of the milk distributed in the two cities.

There is no index to the quality of the milk supplied to the community quite so sensitive as the number of deaths from diarrhoeal diseases in infancy, the milk feeding period. Other things being equal, a good milk supply means a low infant death rate, and a poor milk supply means the unnecessary deaths of many babies. Summer is pre-eminently the period of diarrhoeal diseases among infants; and if we compare the infant death rate in Baltimore for June, July, August, and September, 1916, was 106 per 100,000. The corresponding death rate for the District of Columbia was 64.

Possibly the attorney can give some explanation for the greater infant mortality in Baltimore compared with Washington other than the cheapness of the milk supply in Baltimore. If so, I hope he will enlighten the community upon the subject. In the meanwhile, however, I believe that the people of Washington will prefer to pay 4 cents a gallon extra for milk to have the babies they may not necessarily "icken and die. And it may be added that probably what Washington pays as the price of a good milk supply it saves in doctors' bills and funeral expenses.

DR. W. C. WOODWARD,
D. C. Health Officer.

Asks Motorists to Take Goodies Out to Guardsmen on Duty on Conduit Road.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

I am writing to suggest that motorists who go out along the Conduit road take along with them fruits, candy, cold chicken, and other goodies and distribute them gratis to the boys on guard along the line. It would help out their monotonous, dull days.

H. H. WAKEFIELD.

Private Dalzell Suggests That the Government Fix Prices of All Necessities.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

Let the Government fix all prices! If the Government can fix wages of railroad men and rates of freight and passenger traffic, why not fix prices of the things people eat and wear?

In this stress, with millions of silent, uncomplaining women and children, and hard-worked men by the prevailing high cost of living, soaring higher every day at the sweet will of speculative and conscienceless dealers, I think the time has come for the Government to come in and help out.

As an old lawyer and publicist, and I trust a patriot whose loyalty is as old as the hills, I am sure that I am not alone in being a little weary of the two wars for my country. I submit I know and have a right to demand the protection of every poor, distressed, and half-starved citizen.

Do you know? I do know—half the country is starving today; it is not a patriotic stranger who is quoted, but I know. You may know if you inquire. Prices are so high—every day advancing—that men on moderate wages cannot and do not keep their families in comfort.

Every true housewife will back me in the statement. It shows the cost of potatoes bought of the farmers last fall at 75 cents today are sold at 44; beans at \$1 a bushel, now sold at \$4; beef and mutton at 6 and 10 is sold at 25 to 40. It is a shame! Why, cabbage bought at 5 cents a head is sold at 20 cents a pound. It is all wrong! Wheat sold at \$1 is sold at \$2.50; corn at 75 cents at \$1.50, and the poor man robbed by the manipulations of the middleman.

Let the Government lay hold with a strong hand and fix prices so we can live. Let the Government fix the prices of all things. Let there be a maximum and minimum scale of retail prices established. Make it a felony to charge more, and the laboring man can then live.

PRIVATE DALZELL.

Thinks Everyone Should Have a Record of "The Star-Spangled Banner."

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

Do you not think at this time it would be most patriotic for all citizens who own musical records to have one of "The Star-Spangled Banner" in their homes?

ALBERTINE H. KING.

WANTS OVERTIME ORDER ANNULLED

Mrs. Catt Protests Against Longer Hours for Bureau of Engraving.

Protest against increase of hours of work for employees of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing was made to Secretary McAdoo today by Mrs. Catt, Chairman Catt of the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

Mrs. Catt calls upon Secretary McAdoo "not to let the Government set an example as an employer that will make the women of the country bear the heaviest burden of the war."

Mrs. Catt points out that when the National Association offered the services of its members for war duty it also pledged itself to protect women workers and asked that the order be annulled. Mrs. Catt's letter to Secretary McAdoo in part follows:

"May I point out, Mr. Secretary, that the health of women workers is one of the most vital factors in a nation's welfare, either in war or peace; and that Great Britain's experience in this present war has demonstrated the inefficiency of long hours? We are told that the diminished output under the increased strain upon the workers forced the government to return to normal standards in order to meet the emergency requirements."

MAY BE TIGHTENED IN DEATH

Victims of Automobile Accident Probably Will Be Buried Near.

The bodies of Miss Anna Handy, twenty-three years old, and William A. Morton, Jr., thirty years old, who were hurled to death together by an express train at the Hyattsville grade crossing Saturday night, may rest in the same cemetery.

Funeral services for the young man will be held at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon at the home of his mother, 200 A street southeast, and burial will be in Glenwood Cemetery.

The funeral of the young woman will be from the home of her parents in Hyattsville at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning with a priest from the Hyattsville Catholic Church officiating. It has not been decided whether the body will be buried in Glenwood or Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

At 7 o'clock tomorrow night Justice of the Peace Lillard will hold an inquest. The young couple, who spent much of their time together, were returning from the city Saturday night in an automobile when the train struck it.

WHAT'S ON PROGRAM

Interesting Events of Importance Scheduled Today.

Spring recital of Sydney Lloyd Wrightman, Chapel of the Church of the Covenant, 8:30 p. m.

Reception, by League of Loyal Women to G. D. H. officials, Raleigh, 8 p. m.

Lecture by Edward Page Gorton, P. R. G. S., Metropolitan Memorial M. E. Church, John M. Smith, 8 p. m.

Seventeenth annual sugar party of the Vermont Association of the District, Raleigh, 8 p. m.

Monthly meeting of the Mid-City Citizens' Association, 1009 Seventh street northwest, 8 p. m.

Meeting of West End Citizens' Association, Klidder Hall, 322 Twelfth street northwest, 8 p. m.

Concert in lobby of Y. M. C. A., 1 p. m.

Concert by United States Marine Band, 1 p. m.

Concert by United States Soldiers' Home Band, 1 p. m.

Meeting of the directors of Twentieth Century Club, All Souls' Church, 2 p. m.

Meeting of the Department Home Guard, Elipse, 4-6 p. m.

Junior League meeting, National American Woman Suffrage Association, 105 Rhode island avenue northwest, 4 p. m.; afternoon tea, 4-6 p. m.

Meeting of Capitol Hill Literary Society, 1155 B street northwest, 7:30 p. m.

Recital by Estelle Neubaus and J. Howe Smith, 1155 B street northwest, 8 p. m.

Performances by the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show, Fifteenth and H streets northwest, 8 and 10 p. m.

Meeting of various garden interests of Washington, New Willard, 4:30 p. m.

Meeting of Society of American Nurses, Rutland Courts, 7:30 p. m.

Meeting of Central Labor Union, Typographical Union, 625-635 G street northwest, 8 p. m.

Annual meeting of College Equal Suffrage League, 1628 Rhode Island avenue northwest, 8 p. m.

Sixth annual show of the Washington Kennel Club, the Arcade.

Annual meeting of National Society of American Daughters of 1812, New Willard.

Maconic-Lodge, No. 18, and Stancie, No. 30, V. M. Chapter, No. 3, Anacostia, No. 12, and Hiram, No. 10, Royal Arch, of the Eastern Star-Temple Chapter, No. 13.

Odd Fellows-Union Lodge, No. 11, Beacon, No. 15, and Lexington, No. 18, Rebekahs-Ether Lodge, No. 5.

Knights of Pythias-Cantante Lodge, No. 11, Deception, No. 7, Encampment, No. 1.

Baseball-Washington vs. Philadelphia, American League Park, 3:30 p. m.

Amusements.

Belasco—"The Princess Pat," 4:30 p. m.

Polka-National—"The Little Misses," 8:30 p. m.

1812 DAUGHTERS GATHER

Annual Convention Will Be Opened at the Willard Tonight.

With a reception in the red parlor of the Willard Hotel this evening, the annual convention of Daughters of 1812 will be formally opened. Tomorrow morning the credentials committee will meet and by afternoon the convention will be under full headway.

Mrs. Robert Hall Wiles, of Chicago, national president, will stand at the head of the receiving line.

Mrs. Wiles will preside over the sessions tomorrow. Mrs. Mary S. Lockwood will offer a prayer for the safety of the country in the war, and Mrs. Noble Newport Potts will sing "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Patriotism will be the keynote of the dinner to be given at the Willard tomorrow evening for Mrs. Wiles, other national officers, and charter members of the District chapter.

PULPIT PATRIOTS SHAME SLACKERS

Washington Ministers Stir Audiences With Striking Pleas for Militant Loyalty.

More patriotic sermons were preached by Washington ministers yesterday than probably on any other day in the history of the Capital. Pastors of every denomination pleaded with their congregations to support the Government in the time of need, and slackers were bitterly condemned.

The first church to honor the visiting British commission by singing the English national anthem, "God Save the King," was Wesley Chapel, Fifth and F streets northwest, where American, English and French flags were intertwined in front of the pulpit.

"This church will stand behind these flags and do all it can in the name of God to bring them to victory," said the Rev. D. H. Martin, D. D., in his sermon, "Under Three Flags." Dr. Martin urged that the country support Theodore Roosevelt in his efforts to lead a division to fight in France.

Scorn For Slackers.

The Rev. Dr. W. E. Burnett, at Foundry M. E. Church, last night bitterly scored slackers and urged that conscription be adopted in the United States at once. He declared that the volunteer army system creates a shocking social waste, and that the best manhood of the country must be lost to the nation, while hordes of loungers remain at home.

"It is no time for half-way measures; quibbling and faltering will jeopardize the success of our tremendous venture," said the Rev. Mr. Burnett. "The principles of the nation must be put behind the blow."

The auditorium of Shiloh Baptist Church was lavishly decorated with American flags last night. The Rev. Dr. J. Milton Waldron, the pastor, preached on "The Call of Our Country: What Shall Be Our Answer?"

"The Penitent Patriot, or Death on the Battlefield" was the subject chosen by the Rev. Griffith Johnson, pastor of the Immanuel Baptist Church, Sixteenth street and Columbia road northwest, last night.

Soldier and Salvation.

"No one can consign to hell the man who dies for his country," said the Rev. Mr. Griffith. "The man on the battlefield who has received a mortal wound is face to face with the decision as to whether or not he will accept the living Christ as his Savior or die in sin. Many a man who has lived a life of sin, and kept his heart hardened to the principles of Christianity, turns about on the field of battle in his dying moments, accepts the Christ, becomes penitent, and is eligible to enter the kingdom of heaven."

The Rev. C. C. McLean, pastor of Douglas Memorial M. E. Church, last night urged that all political differences be laid aside and everyone join in defense of the nation.

"We should be no longer Democrats or Republicans," he said. "But a big body of loyal Americans, loving our country enough to give our all for it. This is not the time to ask why, for the nation must have the undivided support of its citizens."

ROOT TO BE SPEAKER

Will Make Opening Address Before International Law Body.

Elihu Root, former Secretary of State, will deliver the opening address at the eleventh annual meeting of the American Society of International Law to be held at the Willard Hotel Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of this week.

A number of interesting questions that have arisen out of the present war will be discussed, including the status of armed merchantmen, on which former Counselor Chandler P. Anderson, of the State Department, will talk. Lesley H. Woolsey, Solicitor for the State Department, will discuss the economic phase of the organization of an international society in America, and the Future Society of Nations will be discussed by Dr. Alejandro Alvarez, of Chile, secretary general to the American Institute of International Law.

The meeting will close with a banquet at the Willard Saturday night at which Mr. Root will preside.

MGR. THOMAS ARRIVES

New Rector of St. Patrick's, by Request, Has Simple Reception.

Mgr. Cornelius F. Thomas, new pastor of St. Patrick's Church, came to Washington today from Baltimore. He went at once to the rectory, where he was received by the Rev. James A. Smyth, acting pastor, and a limited number of friends and associates.

At his request the reception tendered him was very simple. He will make no formal calls this week, and will appear in public until next Sunday morning, when he will preach his first sermon here.

Mgr. Thomas was pastor of St. Ann's Church in Baltimore prior to his transfer to this city. He was the first chancellor of the archdiocese of Washington today from Baltimore. He was rector of the Cathedral in Baltimore for several years.

At a dinner Saturday evening in the rectory of St. Ann's in Baltimore Mr. Thomas was presented with a purse of \$1,000 as a testimonial from the Catholics in that city.

RECITAL POSTPONED.